

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING FARMEDHERE ON THEIR GRAND OPENING

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize FarmedHere, a revolutionary vertical farming facility in Bedford Park, IL, that celebrates its Grand Opening this week.

Envisioned as an sustainable solution to growing fresh produce in an urban environment, Steve Dennenberg, Paul Hardej, Paul Suder, Jolanta Hardej, and Mark Weglarz came together to found and operate FarmedHere. Designed to bring food closer to the consumer, FarmedHere is located in a formerly unoccupied warehouse in Bedford Park. The facility uses cutting-edge technological advances in aquaponics, aeroponics, and vertical farming to make urban agricultural production a possibility. While many types of produce travel thousands of miles to reach the plates of Chicagoland residents, FarmedHere products save money and energy by keeping the growing and distribution processes local in the Chicagoland area.

Beyond being economically efficient and ecologically-minded, FarmedHere also gives back to the local community. FarmedHere has partnered with the Chicago Botanic Garden to teach students about aquaponics and the future of urban farming. This partnership teaches students how to be leaders in this exciting new industry that will create jobs now and in the future.

Residents of the Greater Chicago Area now have access to fresh local basil, arugula, and salad dressing produced sustainably by their own neighbors thanks to FarmedHere. Eventually, this business will grow and begin selling fresh fish and more energy-intensive fruits and vegetables. The founders of FarmedHere also hope to someday move entirely "off the grid" by using cutting edge technologies to produce their own energy, fertilizer, and output—all under one roof.

FarmedHere and vertical farms like it are good for the economy and the environment, and I am proud that this one-of-a-kind facility is located in the 3rd District of Illinois. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the entire FarmedHere family on their successful launch and to wish many years of continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. HORACE PERRY JONES

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Dr. Horace Perry Jones, a legendary figure in the history

of the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM). Dr. Jones taught history at ULM for nearly five decades, from 1965 until his retirement in May of last year. During that span, he touched the lives of tens of thousands of students, each of whom walked away from his class with much more than just lessons in history. Dr. Jones passed away on Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at the age of 83.

Dr. Jones's passion for life was evident to all who encountered him and who knew his remarkable story. A native of North Carolina, Dr. Jones served in the U.S. Marine Corps and fought in the Korean War under the revered general, Lewis "Chesty" Puller. His adventures did not end after leaving the Marines, and he carried his "Semper Paratus" spirit with him for the rest of his life. In addition to vigorously pursuing his extensive education in history, Dr. Jones hitchhiked across the globe, traveling through Europe, the Middle East, Southwest Asia, India, the Far East, and through the Panama Canal. He taught at the American School in London before eventually returning to the U.S. After earning his Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi, in 1965 he accepted a position with Northeast Louisiana State College—today known as the University of Louisiana at Monroe, a school Dr. Jones came to love as much as it loved him.

For the next 47 years he dazzled his students and community with a magical combination of history, humor, and unreserved passion for life. Outside the classroom, Dr. Jones was a local icon. He could easily be spotted driving his antique yellow Volkswagen on campus and across town. It was not an unusual sight to see Dr. Jones standing under a campus tree's canopy, beneath his mounted boar's head, reciting his poetry to a crowd of mesmerized students. On days of home football games, he was often spotted wandering the Grove among tailgaters, carrying a large can labeled with unmentionable motivational language. Even the Stubbs Hall office he occupied was celebrated—cramped with bizarre artifacts, classroom props, and hundreds of books he had read cover to cover.

But for all he was recognized for outside the classroom, most will remember Dr. Jones for his role inside the classroom. There he brought history to life, and brought life into perspective. He was well known to have a few students carry him into class in a coffin, only for him to suddenly jump out and surprise his perplexed audience. It was not unusual for him to show up to class wearing a weathered graduation cap and gown, or excessively baggy and faddish "Jnco" blue jeans, or a "Rage Against the Machine" T-shirt. In his classes he would leap off desks, swing yardsticks as swords, scream, cry, laugh, and teach the most passionate lessons of history imaginable.

As exciting as his classes could be, he was a very serious teacher. His lessons were strategically emphasized with props, chalkboard drawings, and his massive Cold War era fabric map, which he hauled from class to class for decades and draped across his classroom

walls. His book reports and handwritten tests could be challenging, but not nearly as much as his notorious "map tests," on which students were required to label each country and sea in the world.

Perhaps the most special moments of his classes were on the final class of each semester, when Dr. Jones would weave the poetry of Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" in with his incredible story of his trek across the planet. After that class, if a student had not already recognized it before, he realized that he was a fortunate soul to have had the unique privilege to study from this extraordinary man, who not only taught history, but lived it, and who not only lived, but redefined how life should be lived.

Dr. Jones will undoubtedly be missed by the many who knew and loved him. But though his life on Earth is now over, his spirit, legend, and legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of the untold thousands whose lives he touched.

IN MEMORY OF PATRICK SELLERS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a proud veteran from my district who served his country well, loved his family and friends and epitomized generosity and selflessness.

As a proud soldier, Patrick Sellers earned his jump wings at Fort Benning before joining the Special Forces as an Intelligence Analyst. He was proud of his military service with good reason. In addition to those coveted Airborne wings, Staff Sergeant Sellers earned a Meritorious Service Medal, an Army Commendation Medal, an Army Achievement Medal, a Joint Services Achievement Medal, a German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency, a Non Commissioned Officers Development Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Army Service Medal. He capped off his military service working in the Counter Terrorism Unit at the National Security Agency.

But Patrick was more than just a soldier, he was a husband, a son, a brother, an uncle and most importantly, a dad. His wife of 20 years, Tamatha and their 12 year old son William Cade are deeply feeling his sudden loss. So are his extended family, friends, and co-workers, who will remember Patrick for his quick and decisive wit, his ability to relate to anyone in any circumstance and his uncanny ability to disarm people with an exceptional impersonation. Underneath his tough soldier "get it done" exterior was a love of life, of family and of football. His passion for NFL Football was evident in his competitive fantasy league. I'm sure there are coaches in the NFL who could have benefitted from his knowledge of the game.

To Tamatha, William Cade, his parents Terry and Eulata Sellers, his sister Sharon,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

niece Katrina and nephew Bryce, as long as you all continue to keep Patrick's spirit alive, the pain of his loss eases a little more. America is grateful for his selfless service and a better place for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 85 I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, with the successful reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, it is important that we continue to bring awareness to the serious issue of domestic violence. It is a problem that affects one in every four women, and it is one that cannot be resolved by legislation alone.

That is why I commend the efforts of Mayor Mike Rawlings, City of Dallas, for his own efforts at the local level to increase awareness and rally our fellow Texans against domestic violence. This weekend, Mayor Rawlings will lead a "Men Against Abuse" rally in front of Dallas City Hall in a show of unified support for victims of domestic violence. During this rally, Mayor Rawlings hopes to publicly challenge the moral character of any individual who believes it is acceptable to commit domestic abuse.

Raising awareness has been a vital component of a comprehensive strategy to address this issue, and Mayor Rawlings' efforts are another step in the right direction. Domestic violence is one of the most underreported crimes, and speaking out will help victims to not only identify their circumstances, but also empower these individuals to stand up against their abusers and seek outside help.

Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is a problem that transcends race, age, and socioeconomic status, making the issue that much more important as we tear down boundaries across communities to stand up against domestic violence. While the Violence Against Women Act has historically provided effective tools to combat domestic violence for almost two decades, increased awareness is absolutely critical if we are to bring these lifesaving measures into the homes of victims of violence who would otherwise remain silent in the face of cruelty.

HONORING DEKE TOMPKINS

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the departure of a valued member of my team, Mr. Deke Tompkins.

A proud native of the Great Lakes State and a graduate of Michigan State University, Deke began working in my Washington, DC office as a staff assistant in 2006. Sitting in the front office, he quickly distinguished himself as a welcoming face to all who walked through the door. He was a great resource to those calling the office and made everyone he spoke with know that their voices were being heard.

Deke worked his way up to legislative assistant, working on projects in the district and managing a broad legislative portfolio, including: national security, foreign policy, law enforcement, immigration, and labor issues, to name a few. But above all, Deke was a passionate advocate for Michigan's military service members, veterans, and their families, as well as our local farmers and the Great Lakes.

Deke has been an invaluable member of our office—a team player who was always willing to pitch in wherever help was needed and a friend to us all. His enthusiasm in the office was contagious; his intense love for all things Michigan State unmatched. A hard-working, humble, and selfless person, Deke made a lasting impact in the lives of many, which is what public service is all about. Our team will not be the same without him.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Deke Tompkins and his outstanding service to the folks of Michigan's Sixth Congressional District. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors and know that he will continue on to do great things. Go Green!

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF U.S. ARMY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER BRYAN HENDERSON

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Henderson for his selfless and valiant service to our nation. On March 11, 2013, our country lost a soldier and the 5th Congressional District lost a native son when his helicopter went down in southern Afghanistan.

As long as the Stars and Stripes continue to soar, Henderson's contributions to protecting the freedoms we hold so dear will never be forgotten. In a generation where so many men and women have answered the call to duty, his example of heroism and devotion embody what has truly made America the great nation it is today.

Today, our words seem futile in comparison to Henderson's service, but as written in 2 Corinthians 1:3, our prayer is "that the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulations, may be able to comfort those in troubling times."

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Henderson and extending thanks on behalf of a grateful nation. Countless lives have been changed for the better by his efforts, and he will remain in the hearts of Louisianians forever.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, on March 20, 2013, I was unavoidably absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 83, 84, 85, 86 and 87. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the CBC Budget Substitute to H. Con. Res. 25 because it provides for serious deficit reduction, job creation, and promotes pragmatic economic growth. In a word: this budget puts America back in the black.

I wish to thank Chairwoman FUDGE of the CBC and Congressman SCOTT of Virginia, a Member of the CBC who helps to drive our budget, and Congresswoman GWEN MOORE who sits on the Budget Committee; Members who have taken the lead in steering our job-creating, morally righteous, and deficit-reducing budget to the House Floor.

The Members of this body have some very serious ideological differences that have manifested themselves in the respective budgets that the American people will hear over the course of the next few days. But at the end of the day we have to produce for the American people—and budget means that we must do just that—and do so by addressing both sides of the ledger.

That means tough, bedrock decisions about spending but also about revenue. My colleagues in the CBC have taken on this task in earnest and I believe produced a serious, pragmatic Fiscal Year 2014 budget alternative.

The FY 2014 CBC Budget entitled, "Pro-Growth, Pro-People, Pro-America," contains \$2.8 trillion in deficit reduction relative to current law, which would put debt on a downward path after the expiration of short-term stimulus spending. Debt is projected to fall from 78.8 percent of GDP in 2014 to 66.2 percent of GDP in 2023.

We include a lowering of the threshold for the tax cuts extended in the American Taxpayer Relief Act from \$450K to \$250K, a concept which I strongly supported in 2010, 2011, and 2012; taxing capital gains and dividends as ordinary income, and enacting a financial transactions tax.

The CBC Substitute also cancels the harmful sequestration, enacts a permanent "doc fix", and includes \$862 billion in jobs measures and long-term investments. Revenue